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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**8 JANUARY 2020**

(U) SITUATION UPDATE IN MIDDLE EAST**(U) Iraq – Iran Fires Missiles at Iraqi Base Housing American Troops**

(U) Baghdad – Iranian forces fired missiles at military bases housing US troops in Iraq yesterday in retaliation for the US killing of an Iranian general. Iranian state television said Iran had fired 15 ballistic missiles from its territory at US targets in its neighboring country of Iraq. The bases targeted were al-Asad air base and another facility in Erbil, the Pentagon said. More than 5,000 US troops remain in Iraq along with the other foreign forces in a coalition that has trained and backed Iraqi forces against the threat of Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) militants.

SOURCE: 6 January 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) Iran – Ukrainian Boeing 737 Crashes

(U) Tehran – A Ukrainian airliner with at least 170 people on board crashed yesterday due to technical problems soon after taking off from Tehran's Imam Khomeini airport, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported. Rescue teams have been sent to an area near the airport where the Boeing 737 belonging to Ukraine International Airlines crashed, Reza Jafarzadeh, a spokesman for Iran's Civil Aviation Organization, told state television. IRNA said according to preliminary information "the plane was bound for Kiev and had 180 passengers and crew."

SOURCE: 7 January 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) District of Columbia – FAA Issues Emergency Restriction for Persian Gulf Airspace

(U) Washington – The Federal Aviation Administration has issued an emergency restriction barring US pilots and carriers from flying in areas of Iraqi, Iranian and some Persian Gulf airspace following an Iranian attack on two US military bases in Iraq. The agency cites "potential for miscalculation or misidentification" as the reason for the restriction. Such restrictions are often precautionary in nature to prevent civilian aircraft from being confused for ones engaged in armed conflict.

SOURCE: 7 January 2020, [Associated Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) Texas – Officials Fear of Rising Cyberattack Attempts by Iran**

(U) Austin – Cyber-attack attempts originating in Iran are increasing, Texas officials said yesterday. Over the previous two days, as many as 10,000 "probes" of state agency IT systems per minute came from Iran, according to Governor Greg Abbott and state Department of Information Resources executive director Amanda Crawford.

SOURCE: 7 January 2020, [NBCDFW 5](#)

(U) Nevada – Las Vegas City Computers Breached in Cyberattack

(U) Las Vegas – The city of Las Vegas' computer network was breached early yesterday morning and officials have not yet identified whether any sensitive data had been compromised, city spokesman David Riggelman said. City officials were alerted at about 4:30 a.m. to the system breach, which likely occurred through an email, according to Riggelman, who added that the city's IT department acted

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immediately. The spokesman said that city officials have been proactive to safeguard its computer network against intrusions in the wake of attacks in recent years on other US cities. The city faces an average of 279,000 attempts to breach its systems every month.

SOURCE: 7 January 2020, [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#)

(U) New Jersey – Man Charged with Throwing Improvised Incendiary Device at Planned Parenthood

(U) Newark – A Delaware man is facing federal charges for allegedly causing an explosion during a suspected anti-abortion protest at a Planned Parenthood office. Samuel James Gulick, 18, allegedly threw a Molotov cocktail at the Planned Parenthood facility in Newark last week, causing a brief fire, federal authorities said Monday. Gulick, who has a history of anti-abortion social media posts, was also captured in surveillance video on 3 January spray-painting the Latin phrase "Deus Vult," or "God wills it," in red letters on the outside of the facility, prosecutors said.

SOURCE: 8 January 2020, [ABC News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Somalia – Bomb Attack Wounds Eleven

(U) Mogadishu – A bomb exploded at a busy junction in Mogadishu today, wounding at least 11 people, the head of the rescue service in the Somali capital said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the blast, which happened near buildings housing government offices. At least 90 people were killed in Mogadishu last week in a bomb attack by Islamist militant group al-Shabaab, the deadliest in the country in more than two years.

SOURCE: 7 January 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mexico – 40 Suspects in Mexico Mormon Massacre

(U) Mexico City – Mexican authorities believe at least 40 people were involved in killing nine Mormon women and children in the north of the country in November 2019, a lawyer for one of the families said yesterday. The three women and six children from a breakaway Mormon community with dual US-Mexican nationality were on a remote road in a lawless region between the states of Chihuahua and Sonora when gunmen attacked their cars, a crime that sparked outrage on both sides of the border. Authorities said last month they had made seven arrests. They now suspect many more were involved, said lawyer Abel Murrieta, following a meeting between victims' relatives and Attorney General Alejandro Hertz in Mexico City.

SOURCE: 7 January 2020, [AFP](#)

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